

group consisting of Al, Mg, Sr, La, Ce, V, and Ti, and  $0 \leq x < 0.99$ ,  $0.01 \leq y$ , and  $1.00 \leq a \leq 1.1$ ,  
wherein the metal oxide coated on the surface of the compound is an oxide of a metal  
selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ti, Al, V, Co, K, Ca, Na, and B.

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Please cancel Claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter  
contained therein.